

1                               BEFORE THE  
2                               ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION  
3                               IN THE MATTER OF:                               )  
4                               MRS. EDDIE MAE WEATHERS                               )  
5                               vs.                               ) No. 00 -0530  
6                               PEOPLES GAS LIGHT and COKE COMPANY                               )  
7                               Complaint as to being charged for                               )  
8                               services from incorrect meter in                               )  
9                               Chicago, Illinois.                               )  
10                               Chicago, Illinois  
11                               August 30, 2000  
12                               Met, pursuant to notice, at 10:00 a.m.  
13                               BEFORE:  
14                               MS. CLAUDIA SAINSOT, Administrative Law Judge  
15                               APPEARANCES:  
16                               MRS. EDDIE MAE WEATHERS  
17                               4211 West 21st Street  
18                               Chicago, Illinois  
19                               appearing pro se;  
20                               MR. BRIAN McCARTHY  
21                               130 East Randolph Drive, 23rd Floor  
22                               Chicago, Illinois 60601  
23                               appearing for  
24                               Peoples Gas Light and Coke Company;  
25                               ALSO PRESENT:  
26                               MR. JEFFERY C. SCHAFFER.  
27                               SULLIVAN REPORTING COMPANY, by  
28                               Rocio Garcia, CSR  
29                               License No. 084-004387

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I N D E X

Witnesses:	Direct	Cross	Re-direct	Re-cross	By Examiner
NONE					

E X H I B I T S

Number	For Identification	In Evidence
NONE		

1 JUDGE SAINSOT: By the authority vested in me by  
2 the Illinois Commerce Commission, I now call Docket  
3 No. 00-0530. Mrs. Eddie Mae Weathers versus Peoples  
4 Energy and Peoples Gas. This is a complaint as to  
5 being charged for services from an incorrect meter  
6 in Chicago, Illinois.

7 Will the parties identify themselves with  
8 address and phone numbers for the record, please.

9 Mrs. Weathers?

10 MRS. WEATHERS: My name is Eddie Mae Weathers.

11 What else you tell me?

12 JUDGE SAINSOT: Your address --

13 MRS. WEATHERS: My address is 4211 --

14 JUDGE SAINSOT: -- and phone number.

15 MRS. WEATHERS: -- West 21st Street. My phone  
16 number is (773) 762-8204.

17 MR. McCARTHY: Brian McCarthy for the Peoples Gas  
18 Light and Coke Company, the respondent herein, 130  
19 East Randolph Drive, 23rd floor, Chicago, Illinois  
20 60601. My phone is 312-240-4415.

21 MR. SCHAFFER: Jeffery C. Schaffer, Peoples  
22 Energy Corporation, 130 East Randolph, 16th floor,

1 Chicago, Illinois 60601.

2 Want my phone number too?

3 JUDGE SAINOT: Sure. Well, you're not --

4 MR. MCCARTHY: Technically, he's not really  
5 appearing.

6 JUDGE SAINOT: Right. So that's okay.

7 Generally it's useful but I don't think it's  
8 necessary because we would just call Mr. McCarthy  
9 anyway so you're lucky.

10 Okay. The parties have spoken amongst  
11 themselves and at this time have decided that they  
12 will conduct informal discovery and they have set a  
13 hearing date of 10:00 o'clock on September 28th,  
14 2000 with the stipulation that Mrs. Weathers may  
15 have a doctor appointment in which case she'll phone  
16 me. I have given her my phone number and let me  
17 know of the conflict and I will reschedule.

18 I will warn you, Ms. -- not warn but ask  
19 you Ms. Weathers that if you do have a conflict to  
20 give me some dates and times that are good for you  
21 so that I can coordinate them quickly with  
22 Mr. McCarthy.

1                   Briefly, Ms. Weathers, too, I'm just  
2 going to go over a little bit what will happen at  
3 trial or at the hearing. You are expected to  
4 prepare your witnesses, bring in all the written  
5 evidence and the hearing will be a trial only of the  
6 issues that you raise in your complaint.

7                   Again, the Illinois Rules of Evidence  
8 will apply. Meaning that the documents are subject  
9 to the hearsay rules and all the other lovely  
10 complicated rules that we have.

11                  At the hearing the parties are free to  
12 give statements but bear in mind that what a party  
13 says, unless that party is sworn to under oath is  
14 not evidence, it's just argument; and after the  
15 hearing and all the evidence is taken in, I mark the  
16 record heard and taken. And what that means is that  
17 it's the close of evidence. At that time I issue a  
18 written decision after having looked at the  
19 transcripts of the hearing and after having looked  
20 at the evidence. And I issue what's called a  
21 proposed order at that time and it is -- the  
22 proposed order comes out after the hearing, not on

1 the day of the hearing but usually about a month or  
2 so afterwards. At that time, and in the proposed  
3 order it -- there is a deadline date for filing  
4 exceptions to the order. And what that means is  
5 that if you have a problem with what I have said, if  
6 you feel it's inaccurate and you explain why you  
7 feel it's inaccurate and then I take that under  
8 advisement, look over the briefs on exceptions and  
9 then a final order is issued and it goes to the  
10 Commission at that point.

11               If you have any procedural questions now  
12 is the time to ask me not during the middle of  
13 trial. And, again, feel free to ask me about  
14 procedures and that sort of thing.

15               Is there anything else that we need to  
16 discuss on the record?

17       MR. SCHAFFER: No, Ma'am.

18       JUDGE SAINOT: Okay. So I will see you all in  
19 about a month. Thanks.

20               (Whereupon, the above-entitled  
21 matter was continued to  
22 September 28, 2000 at 10:00 a.m.)